

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Philip Charles CLARK :
Serial No. Not yet assigned : Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Filed: May 15, 2001 : Examiner: N/A
For: POWER ACTUATED TOOLS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 5, 7 and 8 as follows:

A1
5. (Amended) A tool according to claim 1, wherein the engagement means comprises means for gripping the piston at its forward end portion when in its forward position within the barrel assembly.

A2
7. (Amended) A tool according to claim 5, wherein the gripping means comprises balls arranged around the axis of the piston to engage a peripheral surface of the piston, said balls co-operating with an inclined surface to force the balls into gripping engagement with the piston upon rearwards movement of the gripping means relative to the piston.

8. (Amended) A tool according to claim 1, further comprising piston retention means to retain the piston in its rearmost position after resetting, said retention means acting in response to rebound of the piston from its rearmost position as a result of the sudden thrust used to effect resetting.